-- 3. The travel planning system of claim 1 further comprising a display to display the diverse set of travel options.

4. The travel planning system of claim 1 further comprising:

a travel option generator module configured to generate a first ordered set of travel options using a first preference function and a second ordered set of travel options using a second preference function, and

wherein the selection module is further configured to output a set of diverse travel options for each of the first and second ordered set of travel options.

B1 Cont'd

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5. The travel planning system of claim 1 wherein the requirements generator module further comprises a template.

6. The travel planning system of claim 1 wherein at least one of the travel requirements within the plurality is not a user entered travel requirement.

7. The travel planning system of claim 1 wherein travel requirements comprise all trips on a predefined carrier, all non-stop trips, all outbound trips departing in a predefined time period, all return trips departing in a predefined time period, all non-stop trips on a predefined airline, or all trips with an outbound departure on a first predefined date and a return trip on a second predefined date.

8. The travel planning system of claim 7 wherein the predefined time period comprises morning, afternoon, evening or a predefined date.

9. A method for generating a diverse set of travel options, the method comprising:

receiving a candidate set of travel options;

for a plurality of travel requirements, selecting one or more travel options for a specified travel requirement that satisfies that specified travel requirement; and

combining the one or more travel options selected for the plurality of travel requirement to generate the diverse set of travel options.

10. The method of claim 9 further comprising rendering the diverse set of travel options on an output device.

11. The method of claim 9 further comprising eliminating from the plurality of travel requirements a first travel requirement when the one or more travel options selected for a second travel requirement satisfy the first travel requirement.

12. The method of claim 9 wherein at least one of the travel requirements within the plurality is not a user entered travel requirement.

a35 Cont'd

13. The method of claim 9 wherein the travel requirements comprise, all trips on a predefined carrier, all non-stop trips, all outbound trips departing in a predefined time period, all return trips departing in a predefined time period, all non-stop trips on a predefined airline, or all trips with an outbound departure on a first predefined date and a return trip on a second predefined date.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the predefined time period comprises morning, afternoon, evening or a predefined date.

15. The method of claim 9 further comprising defining a template of travel requirements.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein generating a plurality of travel requirements comprises generating a plurality of travel requirements based at least in part on the template and the candidate set of travel options.

17. The method of claim 15 further comprising analyzing the candidate set of travel options to determined parameter values for the template.

18. The method of claim 15 wherein the template comprises all trips on a predefined carrier, all non-stop trips, all outbound trips departing in a predefined time period, all return trips departing in a predefined time period, all non-stop trips on a predefined airline, or all trips with an outbound departure on a first predefined date and a return trip on a second predefined date.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein the predefined time period comprises morning, afternoon, evening or a predefined date.

a35 Cont'd

20. A method for generating a diverse set of travel options, the method comprising:

generating a first ordered set of travel options using a first preference function;

selecting a predefined number of best travel options from the first set where best travel options are selected according to satisfying the first preference function;

generating a second ordered set of travel options using a second preference function, the second preference function being different from the first preference function;

selecting a predefined number of best travel options from the second set where best travel options are selected according to satisfying the second preference function; and

combining according to a travel requirement selected ones of the first set and second set of travel options to generate the diverse set of travel options.

21. The method of claim 20 further comprising generating a plurality of travel requirements, and

wherein selecting a predefined number of best travel options from the first set further comprises selecting, for each travel requirement, one or more travel options from the first set that satisfy that respective travel requirement, and

wherein selecting a predefined number of best travel options from the second set further comprises selecting, for each travel requirement, one or more travel options from the second set that satisfy that respective travel requirement.

22. The method of claim 20 further comprising displaying the diverse set of travel options to a user.

23. The method of claim 20 wherein the first preference function orders the travel options based at least in part on price and the second preference function orders the travel options based at least in part on travel time or number of stops.

a35 Cont'd

24. An article of manufacture having computer-readable program portions embodied therein for generating a diverse set of travel options, the article comprising instruction for causing a processor to:

receive a candidate set of travel options;

generate a plurality of travel requirements;

select one or more travel options for each of the plurality of travel requirement that satisfy that respective travel requirement; and

combine the one or more travel options selected for each requirement to generate a diverse set of travel options.

25. An article of manufacture having computer-readable program portions embodied therein for generating a diverse set of travel options, the article comprising instructions for causing a processor to:

generate a first ordered set of travel options using a first preference function;

select a predefined number of best travel options from the first set;

generate a second ordered set of travel options using a second preference function, the second preference function being different from the first preference function;

select a predefined number of best travel options from the second set; and

combine the selected travel options to generate the diverse set of travel options.

26. The article of claim 25 further comprising instructions for causing a processor to generate a plurality of travel requirements,

wherein the computer-readable program portion for selecting a predefined number of best travel options from the first set further comprises for each travel requirement, selecting one or more travel options from the first set that satisfy that travel requirement, and

wherein the computer-readable program portion for selecting a predefined number of best travel options from the second set further comprises for each travel requirement, selecting one or more travel options from the second set that satisfy that travel requirement.

A35 Cont'd

In the title:

Please replace the title with the following version.

-- GENERATING A DIVERSE SET OF TRAVEL OPTIONS --

A36

In the drawings:

Please substitute the amended figures FIG. 2, FIG. 3, FIG. 4A, FIG. 5, FIG. 6, FIG. 9, FIG. 10 and FIG. 12. Enclosed herewith are both a red-lined copy indicating the amendments and a clean copy for each of the amended figures. The amendments to each figure are enumerated in detail below.